

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

July 2005



Seasonal workers and students nudge up unemployment rates

In June, **Adams County**'s unemployment rate remained above its typical level by a margin consistent with much of the last year. The construction employment estimate remains above its year-ago level; the margin of the gain is volatile, but consistently positive. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate gained about 120 jobs or 15 percent between June 2003 and June 2004; it lost 90 jobs or nearly 13 percent between June 2004 and June 2005.

In May and June, **Forest County**'s unemployment rates returned to more typical patterns than winter or spring had seen. The rate is below its typical level by the narrowest margin of the last 3 months. The construction employment estimate is at its highest level of the last 24 months and is about as far above its year-ago level as it has been in the last 12 months. Since January, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate has tracked year-ago trends, but it remained roughly 40 jobs (20-25%) below its year-ago levels.

Langlade County's unemployment rate is as far below its typical level as it has been at any point in the last 12 months. Last June, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was about 60 jobs or 7.1 percent above its year-ago level; this June, it is about 20 jobs or 2.3 percent below its year-ago level. Since November, retail & wholesale trade employment estimates have about 10-20 jobs (1-2%) below year-ago levels.

The unemployment rate in **Lincoln County** has fallen more steadily than it

usually does in spring and peaked at a much lower level than usual this winter. Last June, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was 70 jobs or 6.1 percent above its year-ago (June 2003) level; this June it is 30 jobs or 2.9 percent below its year-ago (June 2004) level.

After swinging 0.8 percent below its typical level in March and 0.4 percent above its typical level in May, **Marathon**

from December through March, while it was slightly above its year-ago level from April through June.

Rising much more slowly than it usually does in June, **Portage County**'s unemployment rate is below its typical level for the first time in at least twelve months. No sector's employment estimate gained more jobs than manufacturing's between May and June, but no sector's employment

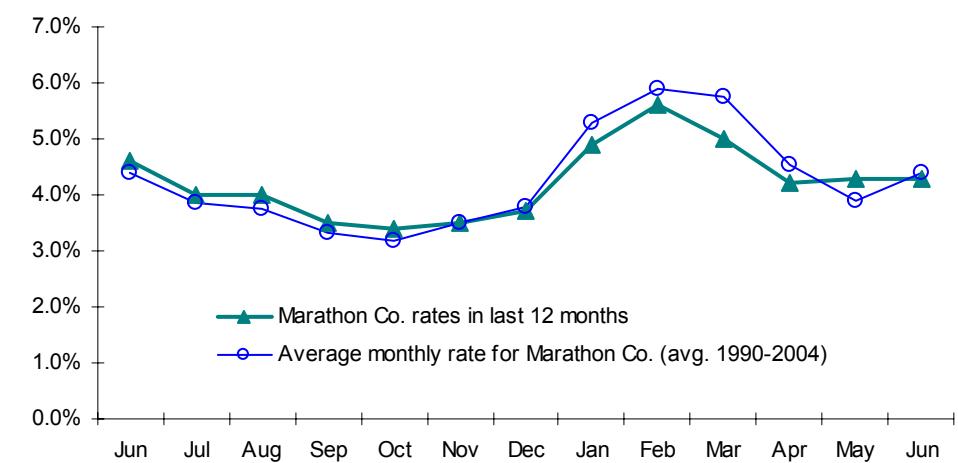
estimate lost more jobs between June 2004 and June 2005. Last June, the construction employment estimate was 210 jobs or 15 percent above its year-ago level; this June, it is just 10 jobs or 1 percent above its year-ago level.

It now looks as though **Vilas County**'s unemployment rate was anomalously

low in March and April, because May and June rates are more consistent with trends from last autumn and winter. Last July, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was 570 jobs or 19 percent above its year-ago level; this June, it is 260 jobs or 12.6 percent below its year-ago level.

Wood County's unemployment rate rose instead of falling as it typically does in May and fell instead of rising as it typically does in June. It now sits closer to its typical level than it has been in the last 12 months. Last June, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was approximately 270 jobs or 8.5 percent above its year-ago level; this June it just matches its year-ago level. The construction employment estimate continues to follow trends seen last summer.

Unemployment rates – not seasonally adjusted



County's unemployment rate is closer to normal than it has been since December. The manufacturing employment estimate is at its highest level of the last 24 months and November was the only month of the last twelve when the estimate was much further above its year-ago level.

Oneida County's unemployment rate dropped much faster than usual in March and April, but May and June rates were above their typical levels by margins consistent with much of last summer and autumn. Since November, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate has generally been roughly 20 to 40 jobs (about 1 percent to 2 percent) above its year-ago levels. The information, professional, business & other services employment estimate was below year-ago levels

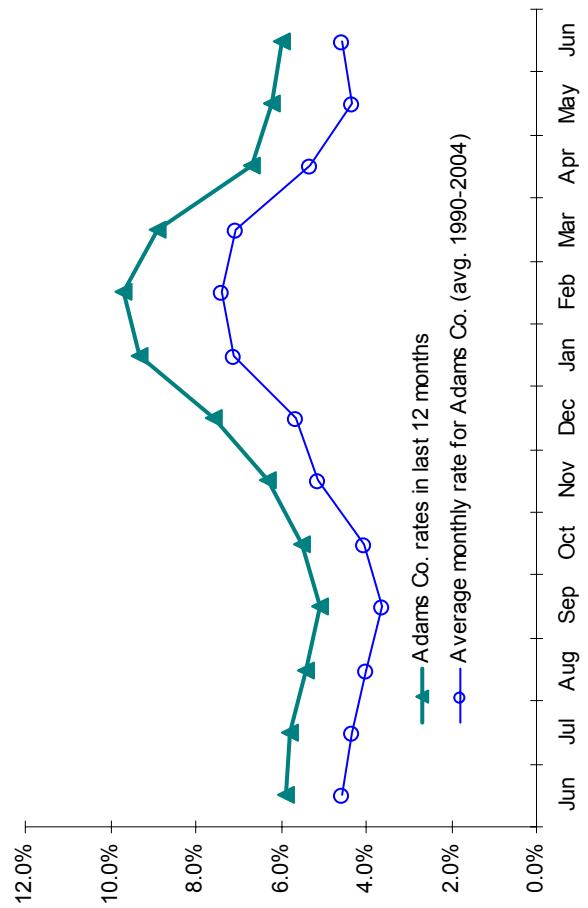
Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted															
	Wisconsin			Adams County			Forest County			Langlade County			Lincoln County		
	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	2,874,700	30,100	26,700	4,400	130	-40	3,600	-20	-30	8,200	160	60	12,100	210	-100
Const., min'g & nat. resources	147,300	8,900	7,800	280	20	20	200	20	30	510	20	-10	430	10	-40
Manufacturing	508,300	7,300	1,700	430	10	10	380	10	10	1,650	20	100	3,600	70	-100
Trade (wholesale & retail)	437,400	6,300	2,200	550	20	-20	330	20	10	1,590	40	-20	1,620	10	-30
Transport, Wrhsng, Utilities	108,600	-900	200	130	0	0	170	0	0	390	-10	10	380	10	-10
Financial activities	159,700	1,600	0	100	0	0	110	0	0	340	10	30	890	10	40
Education & health services	379,600	-4,600	4,100	550	0	10	360	0	-10	970	0	10	1,060	0	0
Leisure & hospitality	271,400	10,300	5,600	680	80	-90	230	20	-40	850	30	-20	1,100	30	-30
Info, prof, bus. & other svcs	446,200	8,600	3,500	480	20	20	240	20	10	750	20	10	1,000	10	20
Government	416,200	-7,400	1,600	1,250	-20	0	1,570	-100	-40	1,180	30	-50	2,000	60	60
Civilian Labor Force**	3,092,900	60,500	-24,330	9,800	330	-130	5,100	80	-40	11,200	370	-220	16,100	370	-300
Employed	2,944,500	50,800	-11,480	9,200	330	-140	4,800	50	-80	10,600	310	-130	15,300	390	-260
Unemployed	148,400	9,700	-12,850	590	0	10	340	30	30	610	60	-90	850	-10	-40
Unemployment rate	4.8%	0.2%	-0.4%	6.0%	-0.2%	0.1%	6.6%	0.5%	0.8%	5.4%	0.3%	-0.8%	5.2%	-0.3%	-0.2%
	Marathon County			Oneida County			Portage County			Vilas County			Wood County		
	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	72,500	900	1,200	19,300	660	-160	34,000	-580	140	9,100	700	-270	42,500	-390	-820
Const., min'g & nat. resources	3,300	200	100	1,460	70	0	1,420	70	10	1,040	60	30	1,730	90	10
Manufacturing	18,900	500	800	1,320	40	-90	4,700	190	-170	320	10	-30	6,800	70	-460
Trade (wholesale & retail)	13,500	200	200	4,500	180	10	5,700	0	240	1,570	110	30	6,000	50	-210
Transport, Wrhsng, Utilities	2,900	0	100	440	-20	0	1,780	0	-40	150	0	10	3,400	10	170
Financial activities	5,100	100	100	550	10	10	4,000	30	-70	370	10	30	1,240	10	70
Education & health services	7,600	-100	100	3,600	-10	-140	3,600	20	280	720	30	0	10,300	-170	20
Leisure & hospitality	5,100	100	-100	2,600	320	40	3,200	20	-50	2,100	360	-260	3,200	80	0
Info, prof, bus. & other svcs	8,200	200	-100	2,400	110	30	4,400	80	50	730	50	40	4,900	80	70
Government	7,900	-300	0	2,500	-20	-30	5,100	-990	-110	2,100	80	-130	4,800	-600	-480
Civilian Labor Force**	75,300	1,400	-290	21,100	890	-540	40,300	-20	-640	12,300	870	-520	40,000	-150	-1,260
Employed	72,100	1,310	-60	20,100	870	-450	38,400	-180	-380	11,800	880	-460	37,800	30	-980
Unemployed	3,200	100	-230	1,030	10	-90	1,940	160	-260	580	-10	-60	2,200	-180	-280
Unemployment rate	4.3%	0.0%	-0.3%	4.9%	-0.1%	-0.3%	4.8%	0.4%	-0.6%	4.7%	-0.4%	-0.3%	5.5%	-0.4%	-0.5%

Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Numbers ≥ 2,000 are rounded to nearest 100; numbers < 2,000 rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers; results rounded.

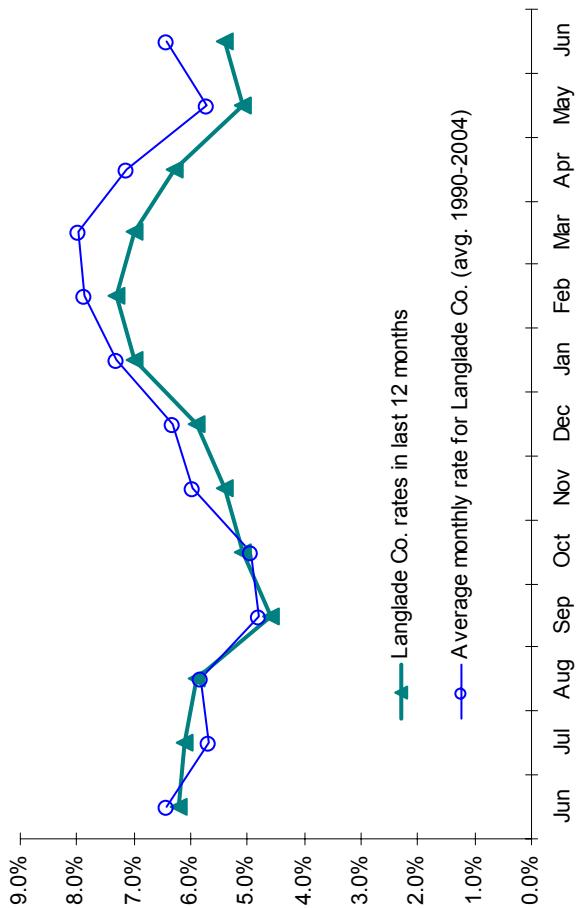
*Includes jobs with employers in area. ** Includes labor force participants residing in area.

For more information call (608) 242-4885, email dan.barnette@dwd.state.wi.us, or see <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oecal>.

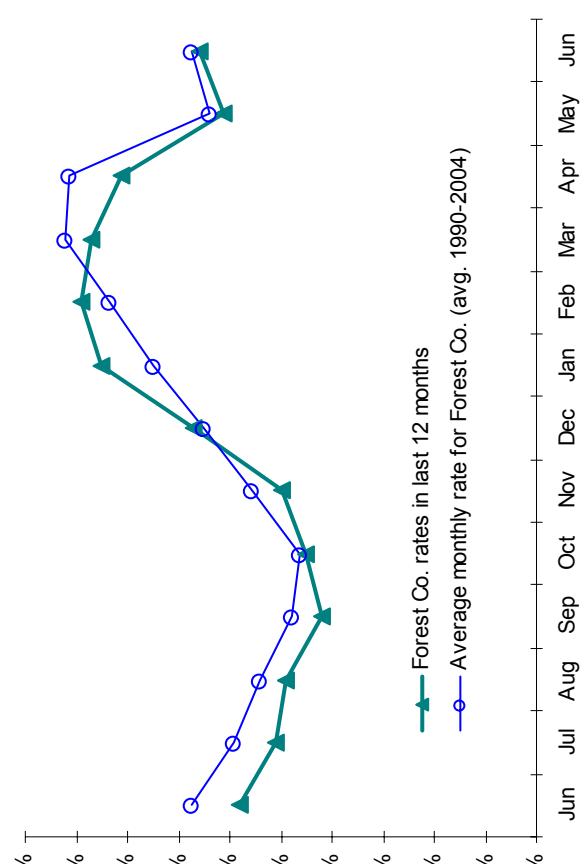
Unemployment rates – not seasonally adjusted



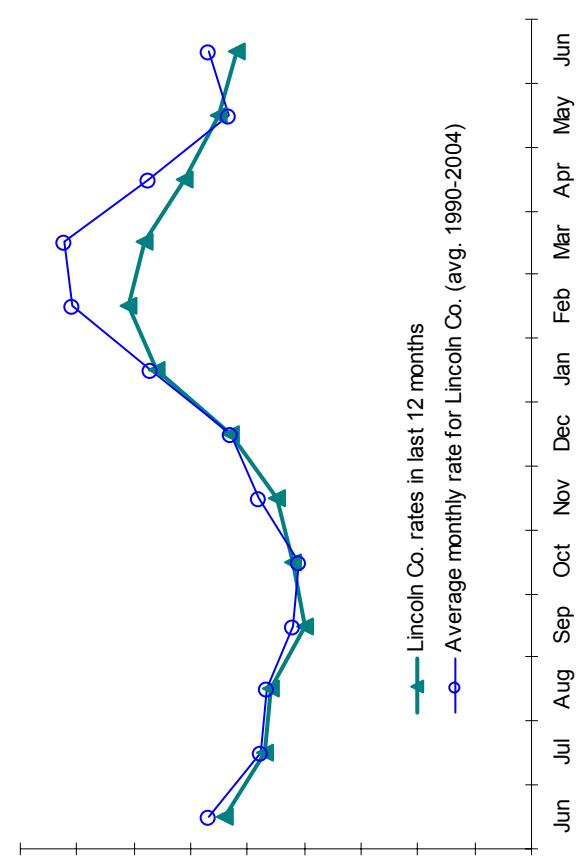
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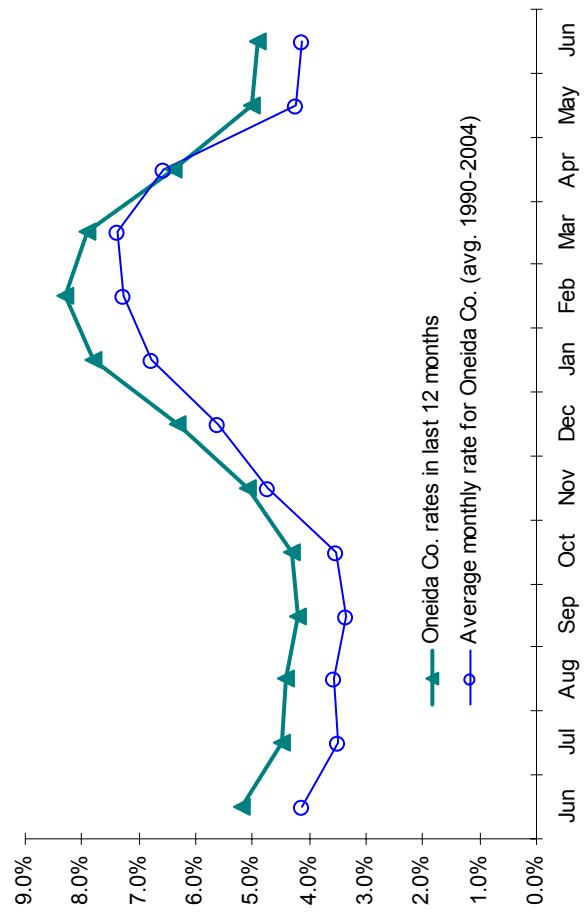
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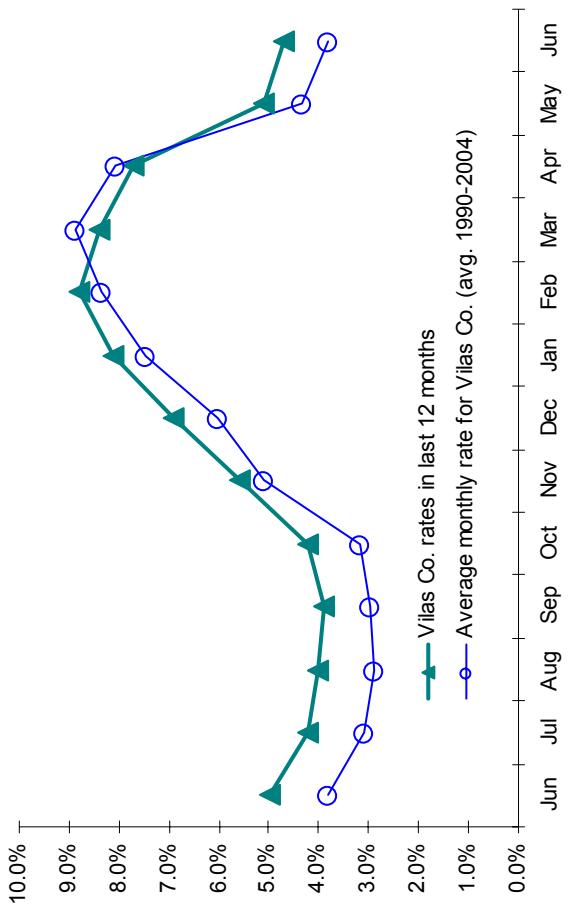
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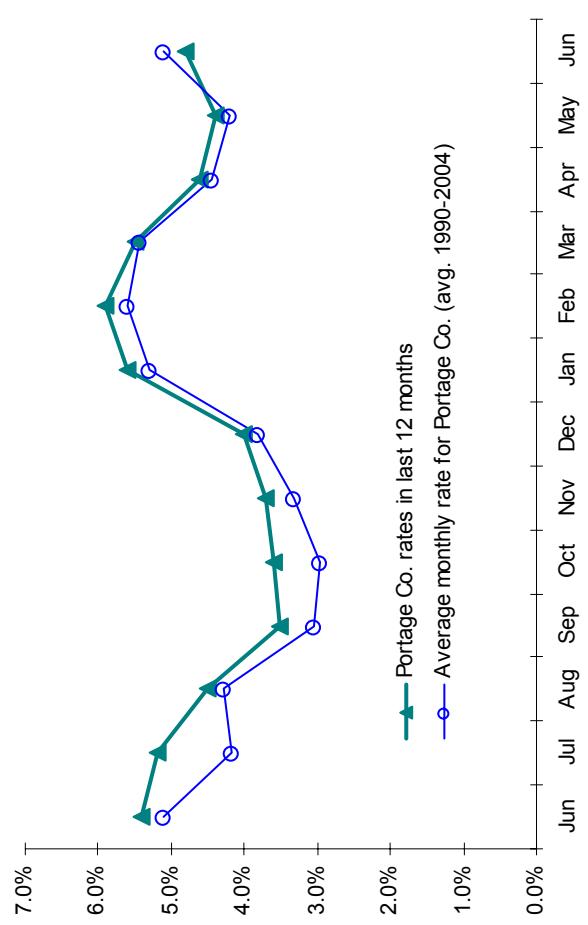
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